

Fiscal Service, Treasury

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as required by paragraph (b) of this section, the agent shall require presentation of the owner's death certificate in accordance with this part and the appendix.

(d) *Evidence—Payment to a legal representative of the last deceased registrant's estate.* The agent shall determine whether the legal representative is entitled to request payment, as provided in § 321.7(f). In addition to establishing the presenter's identification, as required by paragraph (b) of this section, the agent shall require evidence of appointment as well as evidence of the dates of death of all persons named in the registrations of the securities presented. Evidence of the representative's appointment must be either a court certificate or a copy of the letters of appointment, certified to be true and correct under seal of the court or clerk of court. If the original appointment was made more than one year prior to the presentation of the securities it must also bear the court clerk's statement that the appointment is in full force and effect. This statement must be under seal of the court or clerk of court and dated within six months of the presentation. Such evidence of appointment must pertain to the estate of the last deceased registrant designated on the securities. A copy of a death certificate, certified under seal of the State or local registrar, is the only acceptable evidence of the date of death.

(e) *Execution of request.* (1) The agent shall require:

(i) That the request for payment on the back of each security be signed by the presenter in the presence of one of its officers or authorized employees; and

(ii) That the presenter's address be furnished. Fiduciaries must sign as provided in § 321.7 (e) and (f).

(2) If the agent is qualified under 31 CFR part 330 (Circular No. 888, current revision) and elects to use the special endorsement procedure, the request for payment need not be signed. If the request has already been signed when the security is presented, it should be signed again.

(f) *Certification of request.* An agent is not required to complete the certification to the requests for payment on

securities it redeems. When an agent transmits redeemed securities for settlement, as indicated in § 321.14 of this part, such agent shall be understood by such submission to have represented and certified that the identity of the presenter, and his or her entitlement to request payment, have been established in accordance with this part and the appendix hereto.

[53 FR 37511, Sept. 26, 1988, as amended at 55 FR 35396, Aug. 29, 1990; 59 FR 10537, Mar. 4, 1994]

§ 321.12 Redemption value of securities.

The redemption value of each savings security is determined by the terms of its offering and the length of time it has been outstanding. The Bureau of the Public Debt determines redemption values for Series A-E bonds, eligible Series EE and I bonds, and savings notes, that should be used in redeeming savings securities.

[63 FR 38042, July 14, 1998]

§ 321.13 Cancellation of redeemed securities.

An agent shall cancel each redeemed security by imprinting the word "PAID" on its face and entering the amount and date of the actual payment and the agent's name, location, and four-digit code number assigned by the appropriate Federal Reserve Bank. The recordation of this data shall constitute a certification by the agent that the security was redeemed in accordance with the provisions of this part, that the presenter's identity and entitlement to request payment were duly established, and that the proceeds were paid to the presenter or remitted to an appropriate Federal Reserve Bank in payment for Series HH bonds.

[53 FR 37511, Sept. 26, 1988, as amended at 59 FR 10537, Mar. 4, 1994]

§ 321.14 Transmittal to and settlement by Federal Reserve Bank.

In accordance with Federal Reserve Bank instructions, a paying agent shall transmit with an EZ CLEAR cash letter securities redeemed for cash and on redemption-exchange, either directly or through a correspondent institution,

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to the Check Department of the appropriate Bank or Branch, or to a Regional Check Processing Center (RCPC). Upon receipt of the securities, the Bank, Branch, or RCPC will arrange for immediate settlement with the presenting institution. Such settlement shall be made by a credit to the presenting institution's Reserve or other clearing account in the total amount paid, as reflected on the cash letter, and shall be subject to adjustment via a charge or credit to that account if any discrepancy is subsequently discovered.

[59 FR 10537, Mar. 4, 1994]

Subpart E—Losses Resulting From Erroneous Payments

§ 321.15 Liability for losses.

Under the governing statute, as amended (31 U.S.C. 3126(a)), an agent cannot be relieved of liability for a loss resulting from an erroneous payment unless the Secretary of the Treasury can make a determination that the loss resulted from no fault or negligence on the agent's part.

§ 321.16 Report of erroneous payment.

If an agent discovers an erroneous payment of securities, it should immediately advise the Bureau of the Public Debt, Parkersburg, WV 26106-1328, (304) 420-6402. If the circumstances of the payment warrant such action, the agent should also notify the nearest office of the United States Secret Service.

§ 321.17 Investigation of potential loss.

(a) *Notice to an agent.* When it determines that a loss has occurred, because of the erroneous payment of securities, the Bureau of the Public Debt will notify the agent in writing and identify the securities.

(b) *Investigative procedure.* The Bureau of the Public Debt may request the United States Secret Service to investigate potential losses. Upon request, the agent shall make available to the Bureau of the Public Debt, or its investigative agent, all records and information pertaining to the transaction in question, including the disposition of the redemption proceeds. If

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the proceeds were deposited in an account maintained by the agent, the information made available shall include the ultimate disposition of the redemption proceeds from the account.

§ 321.18 Determination of loss.

Upon completion of the investigation, and after consideration of the results, the Bureau of the Public Debt shall advise the agent through which the payment occurred:

(a) That no final loss to the United States has occurred, and, accordingly, that the agent is relieved from liability for the payment, or that no claim for reimbursement shall be made unless and until a loss has been sustained; or

(b) That while a final loss to the United States has occurred, the agent is not required to make reimbursement therefor, as the Secretary of the Treasury, or his designee, has determined that such loss resulted from no fault or negligence on the part of such agent; or

(c) That a final loss to the United States has occurred, and that, the Secretary of the Treasury, or his designee, has been unable to make an affirmative finding that such loss resulted from no fault or negligence on the part of such agent, reimbursement must be made promptly, except where credit for the payment had not previously been extended.

§ 321.19 Certification of signatures.

The regulations in this subpart shall, to the extent appropriate, apply to losses resulting from payments made in reliance on certifications of signatures by an officer or designated employee of any financial institution authorized to certify requests for payment.

§ 321.20 Applicability of provisions.

The provisions of this subpart shall apply to securities redeemed by any Federal Reserve Bank referred to in § 321.25, as fiscal agent, or any Treasury office authorized to redeem securities, as well as to paying agents.

[53 FR 37511, Sept. 26, 1988, as amended at 59 FR 10537, Mar. 4, 1994]